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THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

THE CHICAGO MEETING OF
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF SCIENCE

The seventy-third meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held in Chicago, from December 27 to January 1. From the account of the meeting printed in *Science*, the official organ of the association, some data of general scientific interest may be quoted. It was the second of the greater convocation week meetings of the association and of the national scientific societies associated with it, convened once in four years successively in New York, Chicago and Washington. The remarkable scientific activity of the central west and of the reconstruction period following the war were adequately reflected by the attendance and programs at Chicago, which have probably not been surpassed by any previous gathering of scientific men in this or any other country. In addition to fourteen sections of the association, forty-one national scientific societies met in Chicago and the official program of 112 pages exhibited the scientific productivity of the nation in the whole range of the natural and exact sciences.

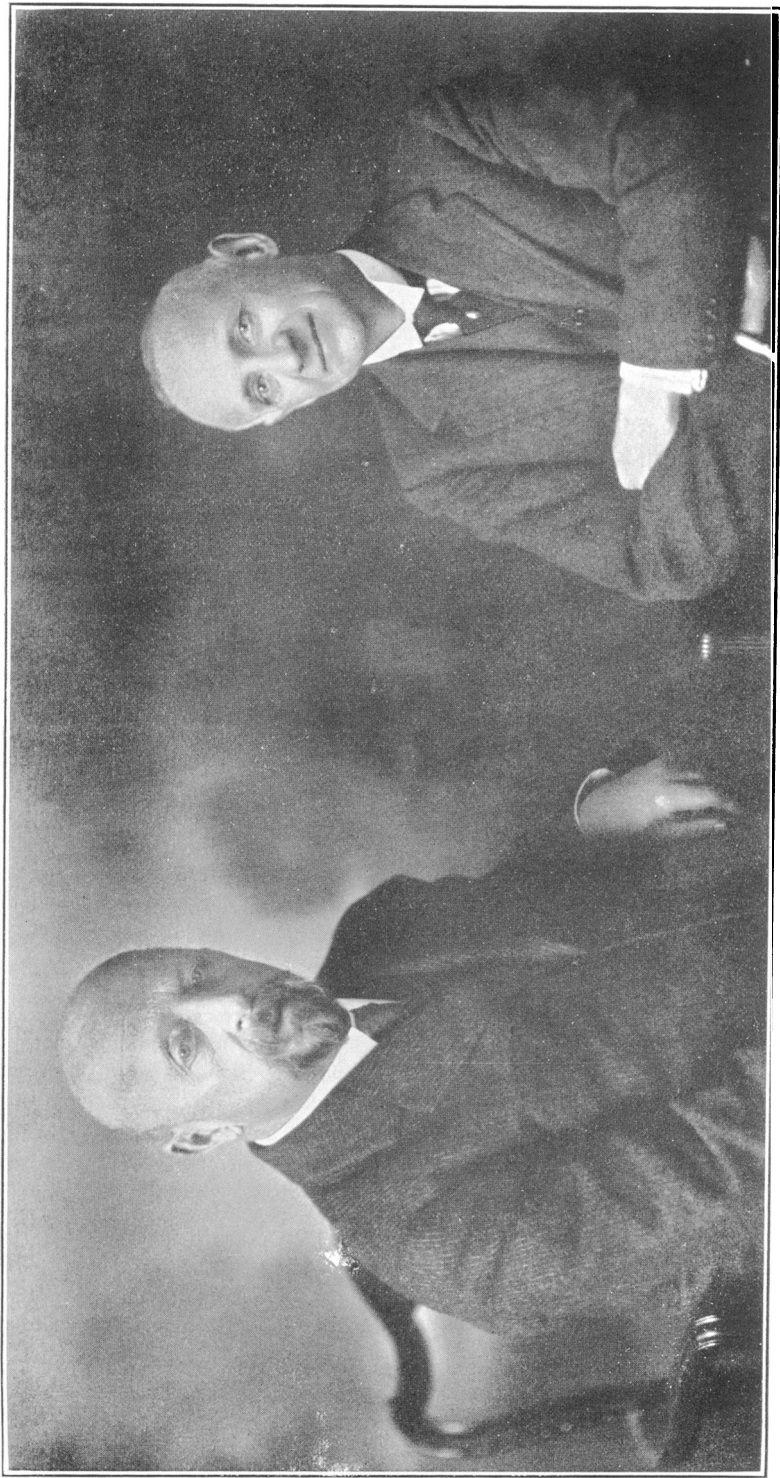
At the opening session on the evening of December 27, after the introduction of the president of the meeting, Dr. L. O. Howard, and greetings by the president of the University of Chicago, Dr. H. P. Judson, the retiring president, Dr. Simon Flexner, gave his address on "Twenty-five Years of Bacteriology," which was listened to by a crowded audience with absorbed attention.

Two other general evening ses-

sions of popular interest were held. At one of these was given an illustrated lecture by Dr. R. F. Griggs, on the region of Mt. Katmai, Alaska, and the "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes." The other general interest lecture was by Professor R. W. Wood, on high power fluorescence and phosphorescence, in connection with which he performed numerous ingenious experiments and demonstrations dealing with the study of these phenomena and of ultra-violet light. The sessions were held mainly in buildings of the University of Chicago, which furnished excellent facilities. The total registration was 2,412, which is the largest registration ever recorded for the association, and it must be remembered that many persons in attendance at the meeting failed to register, so that the correct number was much larger.

The increase in scientific knowledge and interest among the general public is one of the most important functions of the association and the one which it has been most difficult to accomplish. The reports in the press vary from year to year, and at Chicago represented a fair average. Several of the more important papers, such as that of Professor Michelson on the application of interference methods to astronomical measurements, were fully reported, not only in Chicago but also in New York and other cities. The Science Service, definitely organized at Chicago for the wide-spread diffusion of current scientific information, will hereafter make possible adequate reports of scientific meetings.

It was decided that the next meeting of the American Association will be at Toronto, on Tuesday, Decem-



DR. L. O. HOWARD, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
THE CHICAGO MEETING

DR. SIMON FLEXNER, RETIRING PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR THE CHICAGO MEETING



MACDOUGAL	HOWARD	CATTELL	FAIRCHILD	HUMPHREYS	OSBORN
			FLEXNER	LIVINGSTON	
MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AT CHICAGO					



DR. ELIAKIM HASTINGS MOORE, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

ber 27, to Saturday, December 31, 1921, inclusive. The meeting for 1922-1923 will be held in Boston, and that for 1923-1924 will be held in Cincinnati. Then will follow the stated convocation meeting in Washington.

THE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The American Association has been fortunate in its presidents. The address of the retiring president, Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, on the history of bacteriology during the past twenty-five years, printed in the issue of *Science* for December 31, was an admirably clear presentation of a subject unsurpassed in its importance to human welfare, described by one who has led in the work.

Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, presided with dignity, skill and tact. He has played a large part in a subject in which science has demonstrated its service in the economic development of the nation and has been the chief executive officer of the association during the twenty-two years which have witnessed such an extraordinary development of the scientific work of the country, paralleled by the growth of the association from some 1,200 to over 10,000 members.

Professor E. H. Moore, of the University of Chicago, who will preside at Toronto and give his address at Boston, is the acknowledged leader of American mathematicians. It is now many years since that science which is fundamental to all others has supplied a president to the association, and it is fortunate that a representative could be selected with the unanimous approval of all mathematicians.

Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director of the department of Botanical Research of the Carnegie Institution, who has

been active in the organization of the work of the association, more especially in the Pacific and Southwestern Division, was elected general secretary to succeed Professor E. L. Nichols, of Cornell University. By the constitution the general secretary is entrusted with the important task of promoting the organization of the association, especially in its relation to the affiliated societies. Another step that will promote the efficiency of the work of the association was the authorization of the appointment of an assistant secretary who will assist the permanent secretary in the scientific work of the association, as he is now assisted in the work of the office by the efficient executive assistant, Mr. Sam Woodley.

Dr. Burton E. Livingston, of the Johns Hopkins University, whose admirable conduct of the affairs of the association during the past year has won general recognition, was re-elected for the stated term of four years. Dr. R. S. Woodward, though retiring from the presidency of the Carnegie Institution on reaching the age of seventy years, consented to continue as treasurer, in which office he has served the association for twenty-six years.

Vice-presidents of the association and chairmen of the sections were elected as follows: *Mathematics*, Oswald Veblen, Princeton University; *Physics*, G. W. Stewart, State University of Iowa; *Chemistry*, W. D. Harkins, University of Chicago; *Astronomy*, S. A. Mitchell, University of Virginia; *Geology and Geography*, Willet G. Miller, Toronto; *Zoological Sciences*, Charles A. Kofoid, University of California; *Botanical Sciences*, Mel T. Cook, Rutgers College; *Anthropology*, Albert Ernest Jenks, University of Minnesota; *Psychology*, C. A. Bott, University of Toronto; *Agriculture*, J. G. Lipman, Rutgers College; *Education*, Guy M. Whipple, University of Michigan.